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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Saturday January 15, 1977

CG NIDC 77-012C

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Saturday January 15, 1977.

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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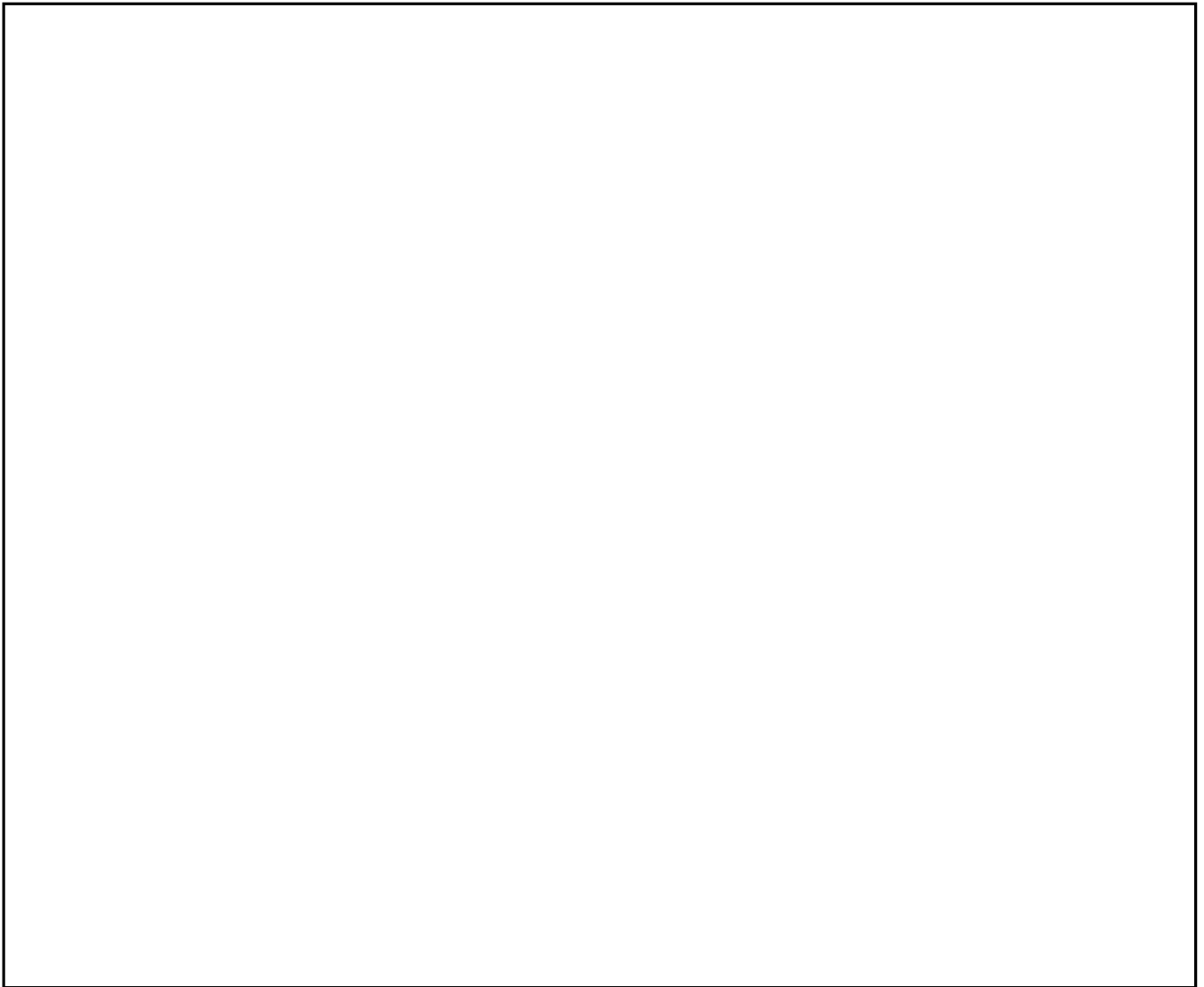
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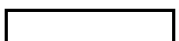


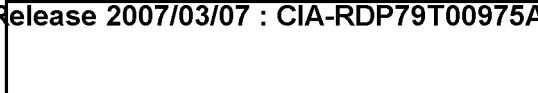
SPAIN: Possible Meeting of Minds

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 Spanish Prime Minister Suarez and four representatives of the opposition may have reached an agreement that will resolve two of the most contentious issues causing friction between the government and the left.

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 The opposition leaders emerged from a meeting with Suarez on Tuesday apparently satisfied that he will move soon



to broaden the royal amnesty issued last summer. The government had been expected to announce a new amnesty at the end of the year, but Suarez apparently did not want to appear to be giving in to the demands of demonstrators or the leftist terrorists who had kidnaped a wealthy rightist politician.

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[] Many of the remaining 200 political prisoners in Spain are Basques who were implicated in terrorist activities, which were specifically excluded from the July amnesty. A Basque leader on the opposition team that met with Suarez, however, alleges the agreement was reached to release most Basque prisoners. Feeling is running high in the volatile Basque region, and a campaign of demonstrations to demand broader amnesty has already led to violence there.

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[] Suarez' meeting with opposition leaders may also have achieved some movement on the Communist question. The four opposition leaders reportedly argued that formal legalization is less important than allowing adherents of all parties--including the Communists--to participate in the legislative election this spring. This represents a softening of the tone of opposition demands and may indicate a concession on the part of the left, which has previously called for outright legalization of the Communist Party.

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[] According to press reports, Suarez made it clear to the opposition leaders that open recognition of the Communist Party is still out of the question. He may have implied, however, that party members might be allowed to contest the election as independents or as representatives of a broader leftist alliance.

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[] After being briefed by the opposition representatives, Communist leader Santiago Carrillo expressed satisfaction with the outcome of their first official meeting with Suarez and told journalists that it was a "positive first step."

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[]

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GREAT BRITAIN: Labor Criticism

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[] //British trade union leaders have strongly criticized leaders of the Labor Party's leftist faction for their continuing opposition to Prime Minister Callaghan's government

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and their failure to counter penetration of the party by alleged leftist radicals.//

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[] //The criticism, described by one union leader as a "warning shot" against the party's leftist-dominated national executive committee, will probably be welcomed by Callaghan and other moderates in the Labor Party.//

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[] //Representatives from 33 trade unions--the Labor Party's main support--used a meeting on January 11, called to consider the party's financial needs, to voice their criticism.//

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[] //The president of the mine workers union, Joe Gormley, was one of the most severe critics of the party's executive committee. He charged that the committee's continuing opposition to the government on several policy issues, such as the recently announced budgetary cuts, makes it difficult for the unions to raise funds for the party.//

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[] //Gormley also expressed concern about the infiltration of the party by extreme left-wingers. He was referring in particular to the recent appointment of an avowed Trotskyite as the party's youth organizer. This man was named despite opposition by Callaghan and other moderate Labor leaders.//

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[] //Gormley later told a US embassy official that if the party leadership does not take note of the anxieties that exist within the trade unions, there could be a major battle at the next Labor Party conference.//

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[] //Jack Jones, the most powerful member of the Trades Union Congress, was more discreet at the meeting, and did not openly attack the executive committee. He did warn, however, that divisions between the executive committee and the government were damaging the party and could endanger Labor's chances in the next by-election.//

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[] //This criticism does not indicate that the trade unions are in revolt against the Labor Party's executive committee, or that the unions are again adopting a conservative attitude. The US embassy notes, however, that the Trades Union Congress has been moving toward the right in recent years, and that the union leaders' expression of concern about the Labor Party is not just an isolated event.//

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25X1 [] //Callaghan and other moderates in the Labor Party probably hope that the union leaders' criticism will enable them to improve their control of the leftists and turn aside their challenges. []

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IRAQ: New Pipeline Through Turkey

25X1 [] //Iraq opened a new pipeline through Turkey last week and will now be able to export oil from Mediterranean ports for the first time since the pipeline through Syria was closed last April. The 1,000-kilometer pipeline has a capacity of 700,000 barrels per day, about 500,000 barrels less than the line through Syria.//

25X1 [] //The new pipeline will allow Iraq to pump more than half of the production from its northern fields to the Mediterranean. Iraq previously channeled all of its production from these fields through Syria but halted shipments when a dispute with Syria on prices and transit fees led to the closure of the pipeline through Syria. Exports subsequently were resumed at a reduced level with the opening of a pipeline linking Kirkuk with the Persian Gulf.//

25X1 [] //The pipeline through Turkey will give Iraq greater flexibility in choosing export markets and methods of delivery. It will also increase Iraq's export capability, since the domestic north-south pipeline cannot handle all the production from the northern fields.//

25X1 [] //Iraq undoubtedly will use the new export situation to make up for its current reluctance to compete with the lower priced Saudi crude in the Persian Gulf area. Since no previous prices have been set for crude shipped through Turkish ports, Iraq will have an opportunity to lower prices without openly breaching its support of the recent 10-percent OPEC price hike. Some lowering of prices will almost certainly be necessary to utilize the new pipeline at full capacity. []

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FRANCE: New Submarine

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[] France's fourth nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarine, L'Indomptable, has entered active service. //It is the first French submarine to be completely equipped with the M-20 missile, of which it carries 16. The M-20 has a range of 3,000 kilometers and is armed with a one-megaton warhead.//

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[] The French Ministry of Defense also announced that the fifth nuclear-powered submarine, Le Tonnant, now under construction, will be operational in September 1979. //Le Tonnant probably will also carry the M-20 missile.//

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[] //France originally planned six submarines of this class but has suspended construction on the sixth, L'Inflexible. The US defense attache in Paris reports that L'Inflexible instead will become the first of a new class of smaller, more compact, and possibly faster submarine.//

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[] //The new class will carry the M-4 missile, with either a MRV or MIRV warhead, and will be able to attack targets at a distance of 5,000 kilometers. The M-4 is still in the developmental stage; the first static test firings are expected early this year. The missile probably will be operational by the mid-1980s, when L'Inflexible is expected to enter service.//

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IRAN-OMAN: Troop Withdrawal

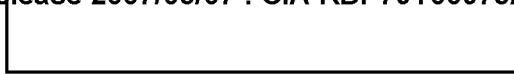
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[] Iran has decided to reduce the size of its 3,500-man task force in Oman more than a year after Iranian forces helped to defeat leftist rebels in Oman's western province. A contingent of Iranian troops has been in Oman since 1972.

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[REDACTED] Omani ruler Sultan Qabus may have requested the reduction. Iran's military presence on the Arabian Peninsula has caused friction between Oman and other Arab states. Iran's failure to inform Omani officials of some of its military activities in Oman also has caused difficulties.

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[REDACTED] Relations were strained in November when an Iranian reconnaissance plane, on a flight that had not been cleared by Omani authorities, was shot down by South Yemen along its border with Oman. Qabus, unhappy over the resulting military tensions with the Yemenis and the renewed propaganda attacks from Arab radicals, may finally have yielded to his top military advisers, who have argued for several months that the Iranian task force should be reduced.

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[REDACTED] Neither the Shah nor Qabus wants to end the Iranian military presence entirely, and a small force in Oman will be sufficient to underscore Iran's commitment to the Qabus regime.

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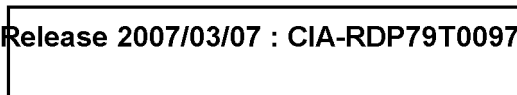


IVORY COAST: Student Boycott

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[REDACTED] A boycott by Ivory Coast university students widened last week to include all of the secondary and some private-school students in the capital. //Security officials fear serious disturbances could break out unless student grievances are met.//

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] On Friday the protest for the first time began to take on political overtones, with the appearance of flyers attacking the conservative, strong-arm regime of President Houphouet-Boigny.

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[REDACTED] Ivory Coast had serious student disturbances in 1969 and 1971, and the government has been quick to react to this latest outbreak.

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[REDACTED]

(C) The government's quick reaction will probably keep the situation under control. The President is visiting Togo and Nigeria but is scheduled to return today. He can be expected to deal sternly with the students, who have been well cared for by his government.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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